

13,000 in War Rally at Garden

Root, Hibben and Others Stir Crowd to Frenzy of Patriotism

Pacifists Ejected When They Interrupt Resolutions Call on Congress to Act at Once Against Germany

Thirteen thousand persons jammed their way into Madison Square Garden last night; they clamored for war against Germany, for a war in which the United States should be the active ally of the Entente, for a war which should plant the Stars and Stripes on the von Hindenburg line.

Four thousand who could not get into the meeting called under the auspices of patriotic and civic organizations and college clubs, stood patiently in line in the street until reverberating cheers convinced them that no seats would be vacated.

It fell to Elihu Root to tune the huge instrument which lay under his hand, and before his introductory speech had passed the second period, a mighty harmony had been achieved.

"In all this vast assemblage," said Mr. Root, "there are no parties and no partisans."

Applause broke out, and he paused a moment before he continued:

"We are all Americans."

No Place for Pacifists

Simple enough—but so is the tuning of a harp to an expert. It swept his auditors off their feet—and many were literally on the floor. There was a scattering outburst of handclapping, an incoherent roar that submerged it, and from floor to topmost gallery came the fluttering of the American flags with which each person was provided. From that moment the thought of the audience marched abreast of the speaker's and his words were snapped up avidly as laggard corroborations.

So nicely was the audience attuned to patriotic and civic organizations and college clubs, stood patiently in line in the street until reverberating cheers convinced them that no seats would be vacated.

"We want peace!" cried a voice, shrill and tremulous with determination.

A grumbling monotone of dissent swelled in an instant to thunderous proportions, on which the well-intentioned hand-clapping of the pacifists, who had made their way into the garden, was drowned. The speaker's voice came from the second gallery on the speaker's left, and a tiny eddy in which swirled the campaign hats of the Home Defence League, on duty as interior guards, showed the crowd where to look. In a remarkably short time the eddy was no more, and after a few cordial hisses the rest of the audience subsided.

Another Dissenter Put Out

When Mr. Root declared that for the safety of this nation there must be no peace in which the United States did not participate the irrepressible dissent broke out again with a derisive "hiss" which was muffled as before, in a ferocious tumult.

"The first overt act," said Mr. Root, "as the word was passed that the disturber had been ejected, 'by the agents of the Home Defence League,' who were on duty as interior guards, showed the crowd where to look. In a remarkably short time the eddy was no more, and after a few cordial hisses the rest of the audience subsided."

The uproar that had gone before was nothing to the tumult that ensued. Amid the conglomeration of roar that went up as the thousands swayed threateningly, such individual bits of advice were audible as "Pitch him out! Throw him out the window! Break his head!"

Guards Check Disturbance

Five members of the Home Defence League, with never a motion toward their nightsticks, collared the disturber and yanked him into oblivion, although the gallery rallied back to their aid.

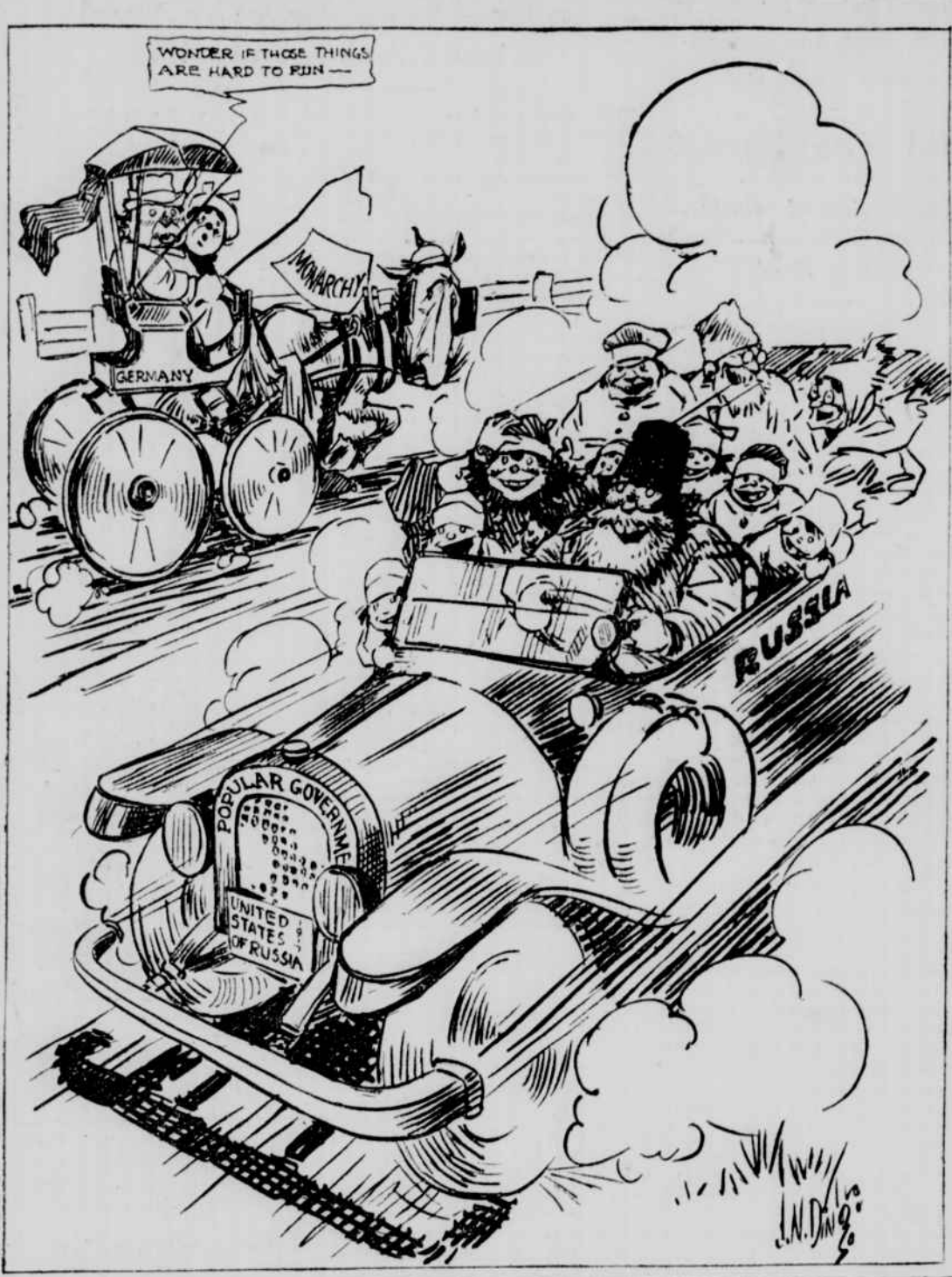
When Dr. John Grier Hibben called for active participation in the war on the side of the Allies, French and British flags appeared as if by magic among the Stars and Stripes, which most of his hearers flung aloft.

Theodore Roosevelt could not be present, and a letter which he sent brought a round of cheers, which were so slight, however, to the clamorous approval which greeted mention of his "greenback divinity" by Charles S. Fairchild, who was Secretary of the Treasury under Cleveland.

Mayor Mitchell said that the city was prepared, as never before in its history, to deal with any crisis that might confront it.

One man who interrupted the Mayor was punched in the face so effectively that he sprawled across the rail of a rear balcony, and but for timely aid would have fallen on the heads of those below. In all, there may have been eight or ten sporadic outbursts by individuals.

Not more than a dozen dissenters remained to vote feebly in opposition to the following "Aye!" with which were adopted resolutions calling on Congress to act as assembled to declare that by the acts of Germany a state of war now exist between that country and the United States."



Wagner Works To Aid Germany, Mayor Asserts

Senator, Accused in Rockaway Point Land Bill, Calls Mitchell "Liar"

Mayor Mitchell accused State Senator Robert F. Wagner last night of working in the interests of the German government. He was referring to the legislator's action in blocking the Mills bill, which would have allowed New York City to present the city-owned land at Rockaway Point to the government for fortification purposes.

"It would appear," the Mayor said heatedly, "that certain members of the Legislature are working in the interests of Germany. You know whom I mean," he added. "I mean Rob Wagner."

The Mayor made his attack in his office at the City Hall. He also gave out a letter, hitherto unrevealed, to Adjutant General Stotesbury, which stated that the city would not make a gift of any of its property to the state, although it stood ready to turn it over without recompense to the United States government.

Calls Mayor Liar

Senator Wagner, when informed of the Mayor's accusation at Albany last night, branded Mr. Mitchell as an "infamous liar" and promised to "hiss him out of his wits" at the bar of the Senate.

Governor Whitman declared that the attack was "utterly without foundation."

Mayor Mitchell's attack was inspired by "cents at Albany yesterday in connection with the Rockaway fortification project. The Assembly yesterday passed the \$1,000,000 appropriation bill, already approved by the Senate to cover the cost of acquiring the land. The Rockaway Pacific Corporation, owner of the land to be condemned, immediately obtained an injunction against the confiscation of the property, alleging that its value was \$2,000,000."

Democrats and Republicans went into the caucus to determine on action. The Democrats refused to consider the enactment of the Mills bill, which would confirm the land bargain originally made between the city, the Federal Government and the Rockaway Pacific Corporation. Mayor Mitchell's ire against Senator Wagner, minority leader.

"Mayor Mitchell says that I am a traitor to my country," the Senator said, when he heard of the attack, "and I am not at all surprised. I would give my life for my country. His statement is an infamous lie. The Mayor knows it to be false."

Will Demand Recantation

"I shall demand to-morrow that he be brought before the bar of the Senate, I shall make him eat his words. I will make him recant so dastardly a charge and apologize for his contemptible insinuation. His charge is prompted by my opposition to the Rockaway land grab bill. Every legislator agreed with me. Only to-day the influence behind both parties as perniciously denounced by the action taken by the Legislature to-day was based on assurances by General Witherspoon that no delay would result."

The suggestion that members of the Senate have been actuated by unworthy or unpatriotic motives in their attitude toward this proposition is utterly without foundation," Governor Whitman said.

"Senator Wagner, the leader of said minority, is a Democrat. We have always been opposed politically, but I think the charge is absurd."

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U. S. Ship Is Sunk; 21 Die; No Warning

Standard Oil Tanker Healdton, of New York, Torpedoed in Safety Zone

20 Are Drowned; One Perishes of Wounds

Eight American Citizens Among Crew; Bound for Dutch Port

Washington, March 22.—American Consul Mahin at Amsterdam cabled the State Department to-night that the American steamer Healdton, sunk by a submarine yesterday off Terschelling, Holland, was torpedoed without warning; that twenty of the crew were drowned, and that another seaman died of injuries.

The consul's dispatch follows:

"Standard Oil ship Healdton from Philadelphia for Rotterdam, cargo oil, torpedoed without warning 8:15, evening of 21st, twenty-five miles north of Terschelling, Holland. Twenty of crew drowned. One died of injuries. Others (taken) to North of Holland. Submarine seen after torpedoing. More details to follow."

The sinking of the Healdton adds another grave chapter to the story of war waged against American shipping by Germany to be laid before Congress by President Wilson at the special session he has called for April 2. It can cause no immediate change in the situation.

Since the destruction of three American ships last Saturday and Sunday Administration officials have considered that a state of war existed, and it is to meet this situation that Congress has been summoned to authorize steps beyond the arming of merchantmen.

The Healdton was unarmed, having left port before the President authorized the navy to furnish guns and gunners to merchantmen. Her fate serves to heighten the profound interest with which the government and public await the time when an American vessel will enter the war zone prepared and ready to send a shell into a hostile submarine on sight.

New Russia Notified Of Recognition by U. S.

Petrograd, March 22.—The United States is the first nation to recognize formally the new government of Russia. Ambassador Francis made a preliminary call this morning on Foreign Minister Milukoff immediately upon the receipt of instructions from the State Department at Washington.

This afternoon, accompanied by his staff, including the naval and military attaches, he went to the Marinsky Palace, where the Council of Ministers was assembled, and made the formal recognition, and presented congratulations and felicitations on behalf of the United States.

The naval and military attaches appeared in full uniform, while Ambassador Francis and the secretaries wore afternoon dress.

The ambassador's party was received in the council chamber. All the ministers were present and stood in a row behind the semi-circular table. Ambassador Francis stepped from the group of secretaries and addressed the ministers, saying:

"I have the honor as the ambassador and representative of the government of the United States accredited to Russia to state, in accordance with instructions, that the government of the United States has recognized the new government of Russia, and I, as ambassador of the United States, am pleased to continue intercourse with Russia through the medium of the new government."

"May the cordial relations existing between the two countries continue to obtain; may they prove mutually satisfactory and beneficial."

The Russian Foreign Minister, Dr. Milukoff, in reply, said:

"Permit me in the name of the provisional government to answer the act of recognition by the United States. You have been able to follow for yourself the events which have established the new order of affairs for free in your country and may bear witness that the ideals which are represented by the provisional government are the same as underlie the existence of your own country. I hope that this great change which has come to Russia will do much to bring us closer together than we have ever been before."

"I must tell your excellency that during the past few days I have received many congratulations from prominent men in your country, assuring me that the public opinion of the United States is in sympathy with internal peace. I am sure the government will be able to prevent anarchy, but only with the support of the people."

Czar's return to Tarskoe-Selo, under arrest, Great Britain's congratulations and other Russian news on Page 4.

Ship "Shot Into Flames" While in "Safe" Lane

London, March 23.—A Reuter dispatch from Ymuiden says:

"The steam trawler Java has arrived here with thirteen members of the Healdton's crew. They say the Healdton, unarmed, was shot into flames by a German submarine in the so-called 'safe zone.'

"Of the crew of forty-one probably twenty men were drowned, owing to a sloop capsizing. One other who jumped also was drowned."

The Healdton was bound for Rotterdam by way of Bergen, with 6,000 tons of petroleum."

Amsterdam, via London, March 22.—The American steamer Healdton was torpedoed on Wednesday evening, according to a Terschelling dispatch to the "Telegraf." Three boats were launched, one of which contained eight men.

One man, badly injured, was brought to Terschelling by a torpedo boat. Another died on the way. Nothing is known of the other boats. It is believed that fourteen men were killed by the explosion.

French Officer Taken As Spy by Mistake

Camera Causes Arrest on Williamsburg Bridge

For a New York policeman to arrest an officer of France is insult enough. When he enlarges on the offence by suspecting the prisoner of being a German spy—then, ma foi, it is insupportable!

In some such words Major H. F. Cayrou, of the French cavalry, fumed in the Clinton Street police station yesterday afternoon, when Captain Tunney, of the neutrality squad, was developing the films taken from the soldier's camera.

The major, who has been in this country for more than a year purchasing mounts for French troops, was walking across Williamsburg Bridge yesterday afternoon with his wife and a small camera. As he paused to take a snapshot Patrolman Hahn saw him and placed him under arrest, believing that he was taking pictures of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

When Captain Tunney returned with a perfectly innocent set of prints, the major was dismissed with many apologies. He departed, still fuming and oblivious of the fact that he had had his developing done free.

America First To Recognize Freed Russia

Quick Action Taken as Hint to German People to Demand Liberty

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, March 22.—Secretary of State Lansing announced late to-night that Ambassador Francis at Petrograd had to-day extended formal recognition to the new Russian government, on instructions sent by the State Department.

This news was received in all Washington circles with the utmost satisfaction. The United States is thus the first nation to recognize formally the end of Czarism in Russia.

It is the frankly expressed hope of government officials that the people of Germany, seeing the promptitude with which this government has claimed the ascendancy of liberal government in Russia, will demand popular liberty for their country also. It is believed that if this is accomplished the end of the war cannot be postponed longer than the time necessary for opening and concluding peace negotiations.

It is unusual for a revolutionary government to receive recognition so promptly. It is customary to allow a period of time to pass, to ascertain definitely that the new government is solidly established.

The alacrity with which President Wilson rose to the present situation indicates clearly his perception of the advantages which this government may thereby gain in dealing with Germany. It is believed by many to-night that the effect on Germany will be immediately apparent.

Propaganda Seen In Berlin's Pacific Gesture to U. S.

A Pre-prepared Unreadiness

By C. W. Gilbert

Washington, March 22.

I CAME to Washington to have a look at the nation's preparedness, the preparedness about which we read in the newspapers, "work rushing on the army and navy" and all that sort of thing. And the only preparedness I have been able to find is preparedness with excuses. Never was a government better armed with excuses! There is almost Prussian thoroughness in the readiness with which blame is always put on someone else. And if nothing more has been mobilized since the country came face to face with the issues it has been trying to dodge for more than two years.

The War Department—so-called because the last thing it has ever been permitted to do is to get ready for war—has an excuse, a tremendous excuse, a perfect 42-centimetre gun of an excuse, the only large calibre weapon in its armory. This is the excuse: It has been for some time operating under orders not to take any steps which would look like getting ready for war with Germany. I am impelled to put that again, in capital letters, so that its full force will be apparent: NOT TO TAKE ANY STEPS THAT WOULD LOOK LIKE GETTING READY FOR WAR WITH GERMANY.

I do not pretend to quote the language of these orders. But I have heard of them from so many sources that I am thoroughly persuaded that the injunction has been given more than once in substantially the form in which it has just been presented. Either that or else the army is the victim of the most remarkable obsession that ever possessed a body of intelligent men. It certainly believes that it has been operating under that particular "hang your clothes on a hickory limb, but don't go near the water" command.

Its duty has been to prepare, but not so that anyone could notice it or take alarm at it. This duty it has fulfilled perfectly. No one can notice the preparations it has made. Germany isn't alarmed by them.

The imagination certainly isn't very hard put to it to conceive of just such an injunction as this being laid upon the War Department. Only last summer the President was under the necessity of living up to his role of keeping this country out of the war. Again, only a few weeks ago, in face of the threat of renewed German frightfulness, he was enamored of the idea of bringing peace to Europe. Certainly these were not the times and circumstances to pile up arms and recruit men like a very Prussian.

Another not yet generally known incident which taught the army its chief's coldness toward preparation was the blue-pencilling of Secretary Baker's one important effort toward a better mechanism of defence. Mr. Baker is, or, at least was, a pacifist—just the man to carry out a prepare-so-that-no-one-can-notice-it policy. Mr. Baker came to the Cabinet to take orders with the object lesson of Secretary Garrison's disobedience and its penalty. His policy was subjection, the only possible policy for one who intends to remain long in the President's official family.

He attempted to pass on to Congress the General Staff's recommendation of universal military service, with a note of general approval. The President blue-pencilled Mr. Baker's approval out of the note, and let the General Staff plan go forth as a sort of "feeler" of public sentiment. Such things as these have been known to the army and have had their full effect.

You may conceive of Washington as a shop. A shop is commonly a faithful reflex of the boss of the shop. It has its eyes on him. It strives to do what he wants it to do. It gets its ideas, its policies, its energy or its lack of all these things from him. The President is the boss of this shop. The people who surround him are relatively of clock-puncture stature, no matter what titles they bear. There isn't a big man here who stands out as well as Mr. Garrison did for a little while. It is a case not of "my policies," but of "my lack of policies." So far as the army is concerned, the situation is beyond repair within a year. It could not be worse.

No Reaction, Says Grand Duke Nicholas

Declares He Would Not Consent to Return of Old Regime

London, March 22.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen gives the following statement made by Grand Duke Nicholas, commander in chief of the Russian forces in the Caucasus, to the newspaper correspondents at his headquarters, in Tiflis, Transcaucasia:

"A return to the old regime is impossible, and I would never consent to such a retrograde step. I look forward to ultimate victory in the war, but a necessary condition in the interval is internal peace. I am sure the government will be able to prevent anarchy, but only with the support of the people."

Girls Kill Each Other With Pistols in Booth

Hold Revolvers at Temples and Fire Simultaneously

Portsmouth, N. H. March 22.—Two young women held revolvers at each other's temples and fired, both dropping dead, in a booth at the Portsmouth Cafe to-night. They had previously registered at the Rockingham Hotel as Ethel Stanton and Rose King, of Wellesley, Mass.

In a travelling bag left at the hotel by the King girl was found a letter telling of an agreement between the two girls to commit suicide, and asking that they be buried together. The letter, signed "Peggy," was addressed to Mrs. E. L. Spaulding, Newton Centre, Mass. The police communicated with Mrs. Spaulding, and learned that "Rose King" was her daughter.

A note addressed to C. S. Malsbury, Johnson Building, Cincinnati, was found in the Stanton girl's bag. The bag also contained a ticket to Wellesley and a small amount of money.

The girls, each about twenty years old, had been in the booth for more than two hours before other diners were started to hear two shots. They rushed to the booth and found the girls lying dead on the floor.

Propaganda Seen In Berlin's Pacific Gesture to U. S.

Washington Suspects Germany Inspired Neutral to Offer Mediation

Purpose to Divide American Sentiment

Action Not Welcome at State Department Unless U-Boats Are Recalled

(B. The Associated Press)

Washington, March 22.—Word that a European neutral might offer mediation to prevent open war between the United States and Germany has come to the Administration without causing surprise or in any way affecting the government's plans for meeting the situation forced by submarine ruthlessness. Such a proposal is regarded here as nothing more than another scheme fostered by Germany with the hope of dividing sentiment in this country, while the destruction of American lives and ships on the high seas continues.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, March 22.—European nations anxious to prevent war between the United States and Germany will be told, if they approach the State Department with offers of mediation, to apply first at Berlin. Until the German government has withdrawn the cause of the hostilities that already exist, this government cannot even consider a suggestion of that kind. Germany must take the first backward step.

This was the attitude of State Department officials to-day. They refused absolutely to discuss the printed reports that vague rumors had reached them of intended mediation by a European neutral—understood to be Sweden. But they did say that the United States would give ear to no proposal for a settlement with Germany that did not include full recognition of the vital rights of American citizens on the seas.

Berlin's Hand Seen In Latest Move

There is more than one suspicion that this rumored offer of "good offices" was inspired in Berlin, or at least prompted by consideration for Germany's interests. The rumor has not reached the government through official channels. Officials are not sure just where it originated, but they suspect that it came from a source of previous pro-German moves.

Within one week after relations were broken Dr. Paul Ritter, the Swiss Minister, made a "peace offer" to the United States on behalf of the German government. It was not an offer of mediation. The Swiss government acted merely as representative of German interests here, and presented the offer in the name of the German government only. It was rejected because conditioned on the continuance of the submarine campaign against American rights. Secretary Lansing's note rejecting that offer exposed the insincerity of the Berlin Foreign Office.

Watch Suspected Propagandists

It has become increasingly apparent since the break in relations with Germany that Bernstorff left behind an effective system of propaganda, and that the same old type of news that he used to dispense, to the discomfort of the State Department, is still leaking out. It was learned to-day that some of the sources of this news are known, and are being watched by agents of the Department of Justice. Evidence is being collected, and arrests probably will be made on the outbreak of war.

Daniels Will Recruit Navy to Full Strength; 8-Hour Law Suspended

Washington, March 22.—The eight-hour regulation applying to labor on Navy Department contracts in private plants was suspended to-day by President Wilson, under the authority given him at the last session of Congress.

Additional efforts to stimulate recruiting for the navy were launched during the day. The response to the recruiting service in the last few months has been the best on record, but Secretary Daniels is determined